

Connecticut Valley some 175 million years ago. Alongside the tracks Mr. Tose has constructed a twelve-inch model of a dinosaur caught in the act of leaving its footprints in the mud of time. Many named species of these extinct reptiles have never actually been discovered; all that is known of them is their footprints made millions of years ago.

A second exhibit which has been prepared by Mr. Tose shows a number of Tertiary fish from the famous Green River Basin of Wyoming. Some of these fish which lived about 60 million years ago show a relationship to present-day herrings. These fossils represent both fresh and salt water forms; the latter had evidently come to the fresh water to spawn in the manner of certain modern marine fishes. It is apparent, therefore, that the lake had an outlet to the sea.

◇  
SUNSET STORIES

A POPULAR SERIES of articles on western natural history contributed by members of the California Academy of Sciences' staff is appearing in this year's issues of *Sunset Magazine*. Dr. Robert T. Orr, Curator of Birds and Mammals, published his second contribution in the February number. It was in the form of a travelogue on an automobile trip from San Francisco across Marin County to its northern coastal section. Dr. Wilbert M. Chapman, Curator of Fishes, followed with a very vivid description of life in a Pacific Coast tide pool, this article appearing in the March issue.

◇  
NEW BUTTERFLY COLLECTION RECEIVED

DR. EDWARD S. ROSS, Associate Curator in charge of the Entomological Collections of the California Academy of Sciences, has just announced the acceptance by the Academy of a very valuable butterfly collection. The donor is Mr. R. W. L. Potts, systematic entomologist for the State Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine at San Francisco. The collection consists of some 2,000 specimens of New World *Acraeinae*, a subfamily consisting of rare nymphalids found only in tropical regions. This collection is the largest of this group in this country and one of the largest in the world. One group of these butterflies is particularly rare because the insects habitually fly only above the top levels of the forest. Other groups are limited to the less accessible regions of the Andes.

# ACADEMY NEWS LETTER

Number 88

April, 1947



MIDWAY POINT AND CARMEL BAY

---

*Published Monthly by*  
CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES  
GOLDEN GATE PARK • SAN FRANCISCO

# CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

GOLDEN GATE PARK • SAN FRANCISCO



## April Announcement

THE REGULAR APRIL MEETING of the California Academy of Sciences will be held in North American Hall, West Wing of the Academy Buildings in Golden Gate Park, Thursday evening, April 24, 1947, at eight o'clock. The lecture of the evening, another in the Academy's series on the Dr. Walter B. Scaife Foundation, will be given by Mr. Karl Maslowski, outstanding naturalist, writer, and photographer. Mr. Maslowski's subject will be

### FROM SEASHORE TO GLACIER

Mr. Maslowski will illustrate his lecture with all-color motion pictures depicting the lives of some of nature's most extravagant creatures. The film begins on the Dry Tortugas Islands, the southern-most specks of land in the Great Florida Reef, some 120 miles off the coast of Florida. The Portuguese Man-o-War, the starfish, the sand shark, and the barracuda, all of these are shown as they actually live in their ocean surroundings. Noddy and sooty terns are visited on Bush Key, the only nesting site of these two species of sea birds in North America. Passing inland to the Miami Valley, the next scenes show a family of scarlet tanagers and here an amazing thing is pictured—a perfectly wild bird allowing itself to be petted and fed as it sits on the nest. The film ends in the mountains of Montana amid a setting of gorgeous scenery and wildflowers, and with whistling marmots, white-tailed ptarmigan, water ouzels, and many other mountain creatures in action. From ocean floor to glacier-crested mountain, certainly everyone will see much to interest him along this trail as Karl Maslowski leads the way.

The public is cordially invited.



### APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

NOTICE is hereby given to all Corporate Members that the Council at its April meeting approved the applications of Dr. Mary L. Bowerman, Mr. Claude E. Flock, and Mr. Lloyd A. Myers for MEMBERSHIP, and of Joan Altieri, Carl Holmes, Patty Innes, Frank Mantellina, Larry Murphy, Francine Parsons, Ronald Pelsinger, and Gene Stewart for STUDENT MEMBERSHIP in the California Academy of Sciences. If no objection to the election of these applicants be received at the office of the Academy within two weeks after April 24, they will be considered elected.

## DR. KASK RETURNS

DR. JOHN L. KASK, Curator of Aquatic Biology in the California Academy of Sciences, recently returned to his duties at the Steinhart Aquarium after over two years in the Army. During the latter part of this service Dr. Kask was a member of General MacArthur's staff, serving as head of the Resources and Research Branch of the Fisheries Division. His duties consisted of making a complete survey of the fisheries and marine industries of Japan and at the same time administering the Japanese fisheries, which constitute the lifeline of the country (the Japanese get ninety per cent of their protein from the ocean). Because fish are so important as the chief source of animal protein in the Japanese diet, and as a self-supporting Japan will relieve the American taxpayer of a large burden, General MacArthur put a high priority on the recovery of the Japanese fishing industry. Now, according to Dr. Kask, the fisheries are operating at near peak efficiency within the restrictions imposed by the Allied Military Government.



### "SPEED, MALISE, SPEED!"

EXCHANGE OF IDEAS and material by air does get things done expeditiously. Inter-continental communication that formerly might have consumed a good part of a year can now be disposed of in days instead of months. Measured by means of modern transportation, space and time have shrivelled perceptibly.

Botanical problems involving two forms of the broad-leaf filaree which are common in California raised the question of the occurrence of the same or different forms in Chile. From the Academy's Department of Botany an inquiry, accompanied by notes and fragments of the California plants, was sent off by air on February 7. At the Museo Nacional in Santiago, Chile, prompt attention was given the matter by Dr. Carlos Muñoz Pizarro who replied on February 17, sending critical material of the Chilean forms. This was received in San Francisco on the morning of February 27 and before the day was ended not only was the identity of the Chilean forms established but a letter expressing our deep-felt gratitude was winging its way back to our colleagues in science below the Equator.—A few years hence, will all this seem as snail-paced as does Sir Walter Scott's runner seem to us?

P.S.—Filaree, by the way, belonging to the geraniaceous genus *Erodium*, is what children call "clocks."



### FOSSILS EXHIBITED

MR. CECIL TOSE, in charge of the Department of Exhibits, has completed arranging an exhibit of dinosaur tracks which may be seen in North American Hall. Included is a slab, formerly mud but now stone, on which are imprinted the bird-like tracks of a huge dinosaur, *Struthiomimus altus*, which lived in what is now the